

Message Text

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71

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 /069 W

----- 022710

R 271027Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7074

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2351

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR AFSP MPOL PINR LA US GW

SUBJECT: FRG DEFENSE ATTACHE VISITS VIENTIANE

1. WEST GERMAN CHARGE RITTMULLER TOLD ME SEPTEMBER 24 THAT THE WEST GERMAN MILITARY ATTACHE WHO RECENTLY VISITED VIENTIANE WAS UNABLE TO OBTAIN ANY APPOINTMENTS IN THE LAO DEFENSE MINISTRY.

2. RITTMULLER ADDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS WHO HAD SEEN THE ATTACHE HAD TOLD HIM MEETINGS WITH THE DEFENSE MINISTRY COULD NOT BE ARRANGED BECAUSE A NEW POLICY WAS BEING DEVELOPED UNDER WHICH COUNTRIES HAVING MILITARY ATTACHES ACCREDITED TO LAOS WOULD BE ASKED TO WITHDRAW THEM.

3. FILIPINO MILITARY ATTACHE ABUNDO SEPARATELY TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE HAD INVITED LAO DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICERS TO LUNCHEON HE HOSTED FOR MILITARY ATTACHE CORPS SEPTEMBER 22 BUT NONE HAD ATTENDED, PLEADING THEY WERE ALL BUSY. THIS WAS FIRST TIME IN HISTORY OF BIMONTHLY ATTACHE LUNCHEONS THAT LAO HAVE BEEN ABSENT. ABUNDO ALSO SAID HE HAD INVITED NEW SRV MILITARY ATTACHE TO ATTEND LUNCHEON, EVEN THOUGH SRV OFFICER HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY CALLED ON ANY OF HIS NON-COMMUNIST COLLEAGUES (FRENCH, THAI, US, AND FILIPINO). SRV ATTACHE REGRETTED INVITATION, HOWEVER, PLEADING HE WAS OTHERWISE OCCUPIED.

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4. COMMENT: GERMAN REPORT ABOUT NEW DEFENSE MINISTRY POLICY
TOWARDS ATTACHES IS FIRST INDICATION WE HAVE RECEIVED THAT
LAO MAY ASK OTHER ATTACHES BESIDES US DATT TO LEAVE.
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Message Attributes

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